

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated December 23, 2004, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 6-14, 16-23, 25-33, and 35-39 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,421,711 to Blumenau et al. ("Blumenau") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,625,747 to Tawil et al. ("Tawil") and allowed claims 5, 15, 24 and 34.

By this amendment, Applicants propose to cancel claims 1-4, 6-14, 16-23, 25-33, and 35-39 without prejudice or disclaimer and amend claims 5, 15, 24, and 34 in independent form.

In light of the foregoing amendments and based on the following arguments, Applicants respectfully request the entry of this amendment and the timely allowance of amended claims 5, 15, 24, and 34.

I. The Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

As noted above, Applicants propose to cancel claims 1-4, 6-14, 16-23, 25-33, and 35-39. Accordingly, upon entry of this amendment, the rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) are rendered moot.

II. Allowed Claims 5, 15, 24, and 24

The Examiner indicated that claims 5, 15, 24, and 34 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicants propose to amend these claims as such and respectfully request the timely allowance of these claims.

Further, Applicants note that the Examiner asserts in the reasons for allowance of these claims that “[t]he prior art does not teach ceasing the display of the first link; displaying a red-colored portion on the first link; displaying the first link using a broken line.” Claims 5, 15, 24, and 34, however, recite, among other things, “wherein said graphically indicating the failure in the first data path *comprises one of the group consisting of:* ceasing the display of the first link; display a red-colored portion on the first link; and displaying the first link using a broken line.” (Emphasis added.)

III. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully request that this Response under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 be considered by the Examiner, placing claims 5, 15, 24, and 34 in condition for allowance.


In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants submit that this claimed invention is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious in view of the prior art references cited against this application. Applicants submit that the proposed amendments of claims 5, 15, 24, and 34 do not raise new issues or necessitate the undertaking of any additional search of the art by the Examiner, since all of the elements and their relationships claimed were either earlier claimed or inherent in the claims as examined. Indeed, the Examiner has already indicated the allowability of these claims. Therefore, this Amendment should allow for immediate action by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicants request the Examiner's reconsideration and reexamination of the application, and the timely allowance of the claims 5, 15, 24, and 34.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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